Vietnam vet is inspirational leader

Gene Murphy didn't have to go on that patrol into the jungles of Vietnam just 30 days before he was scheduled to return to the United States. But the 20-year-old sergeant wanted to be with the men of the squad he led.

"Six of us were hit by small arms fire," recalled the Sioux Falls, S.D., man 15 years after that harrowing day.

"After being hit, I felt a burning and stinging feeling. I thought I'd 'bought the farm' he remarked, meaning that he believed he would die.

"I couldn't feel my legs when I fell, so I moved to see if my legs were still there. When I moved, they opened fire again, and I was hit in the ankle. So I quit moving."

That was the beginning of a day and a night of anguish and pain as Murphy waited for military choppers to get close enough to lift him out of the dense Vietnamese jungle. For 14 hours, he waited.

Months of hospitalization could not cure the paralysis of Murphy's legs, but that didn't dim the will to live that sparked Murphy's soul as he lay wounded in the thick heat of Vietnam. And that determination has since carried him to a prominent position of leadership among South Dakota's handicapped citizens.

Murphy's accomplishments were recently recognized by the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), which chose him as 1984's national Disabled Veteran of the Year. The stocky Vietnam vet will receive the award at the opening of the DAV's national convention in Washington, D.C., Aug. 26.

When he first returned from Vietnam, Murphy was angry, demanding that doctors and clergymen stay away, but that mind-set didn't last long. "I guess I've had a positive attitude all my life," he remarked. "Looking around and seeing others worse off than I has made me feel very lucky to be alive."

Even so, he was apprehensive about returning to his hometown, White, S.D., in a wheelchair. But before long, he was out hunting from a standing vehicle with his brothers and cruising around with his buddies. And he decided to enroll at Dakota State College in Madison, S.D., where he majored in business administration.

There he met a nursing student named Edina, whom he married in 1972. Today, they enjoy swimming and playing computer games with their perky, 7-year-old daughter, Erin.

After his marriage, Murphy continued his studies at Augustana College in Sioux Falls and became active in the DAV. He held just about every elected position in Sioux Falls DAV Chapter 1 and the DAV Department of South Dakota, currently serving as commander of the state DAV organization.

That rise to prominence brought new responsibilities as he was appointed to various boards and committees charged with improving conditions faced by disabled South Dakotans. He also lobbies before the South Dakota legislature, advocating the needs of disabled vets, veterans generally, and handicapped people.

But most meaningful, personally, to Murphy is the one-on-one counseling he's often called upon to do with others who've recently undergone spinal cord injury.

"Some of them want to give up entirely," he noted with concern. "They don't even want to live anymore. I try to encourage them, tell them of their potential, their abilities. There are still so many things they can do."

Paralysis didn't dim Murphy's enthusiasm for sports, and he's taken on a leading role with the Sioux Wheelers, a group of disabled vets and other handicapped people who've achieved an enviable record in such athletic fields as basketball, softball, trap shooting, and track and field.

Gene Murphy

Describing why he and two others organized the Sioux Wheelers, Murphy said, "We liked the exercise and the fun of competing, and we wanted to show other handicapped individuals that you don't have to crawl into a corner or sit in a back room at home just because of some physical impairment."

Murphy is one of the team's top competitors, and his home and office sport shelves of trophies, including gold and bronze medals won at the National Wheelchair Veterans Games in Long Beach, Calif., last year.

Summarizing the meaning of a life as full as Gene Murphy's would be a chore, but Larry Bouska, supervisor of the DAV's national service office in Sioux Falls, recently gave it a shot.

"He is without a doubt the inspirational leader for not only veterans, but all of the citizens and handicapped individuals in our community and state," Bouska commented. "Gene is a doer and a leader."

Family fun day set for Saturday

The Appomattox County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a family fun day outing this Saturday, Aug. 11 from 2 to 9 p.m. at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center.

Everyone is invited to attend. The Chamber will have complete use of the Center's recreational facilities, including the recently completed swimming pool.

Gospel and country musical entertainment will highlight the afternoon and evening programs. The picnic supper will be served starting at 5 p.m.

Cost for the day is $4 per person for Chamber members and $4.50 per person for non-members. Children age three and under can attend at no charge.

Final registration day is today (Wednesday, Aug. 8). Register by sending your name and remittance to the Chamber at Box 704, Appomattox, 24522. If you have any questions call the Chamber office at 352-5547 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Chamber needs your support to make this a success. Bring the whole family and come on out and have a good time.

Again, this event will take place, rain or shine, at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center this Saturday, Aug. 8, starting at 2 p.m.

Evergreen celebration noted

Evergreen Commemorative plates will be offered for sale by the Evergreen Ruritan Club during the club's celebration marking Evergreen's 130th birthday this Saturday.

The plates feature pictures of C. T. Evans and J. B. Hamilton's stores, the Evergreen railroad station and the former Evergreen school.

Anyone who wishes to order a plate but who will not be at the celebration this weekend may call 352-2830 after 5 p.m.

The celebration festivities will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday at the old Evergreen School.

All proceeds from the event will be used to remodel the Evergreen Ruritan Community Center.

Special ed classes serve county students

Since 1972 the schools in Appomattox County have served students with physical handicaps or special problems which hinder learning.

This marks the 13th year since the first special education class begun locally. Public law 94-142 requires school divisions to provide services for all persons, age 2 through 21, who have been identified as having special needs.

The funding for Special Education classes is shared by the local, state and federal government. Referrals to the program come from parents, teacher and personnel from public agencies. The responsibility of the development of programs and the employment of teachers belongs to the school division.

The emphasis on early detection led to the requirement that services be provided to preschool children. It is believed that early intervention results in lessening the severity of the disorder possessed by the child. A center based program for children, ages 2-5, is carried out at the Appomattox Primary School.

Testing procedures indicate that the children enrolled in this program possess a significant delay in development which, if not given appropriate attention, could result in appreciable handicaps to learning.

Services are provided for physically handicapped by a licensed physical therapist. This has proven to be of great benefit since earlier times, therapy was available only in Lynchburg.

Certified teachers are employed to teach the mentally retarded, learning disabled, seriously emotionally disturbed, speech impaired, hearing impaired, visually impaired. In each of these areas, students spend a part of each day with the special teacher. Academic achievement and self-esteem both improve because of specialized services.

Parents meet in the spring with these teachers to plan for their children for the next school year. All services are jointly planned and the parents' permission is required.

Annual review is made of student progress. A comprehensive review is made each three years to ensure that the child's placement in special services is appropriate.

Cole, Moore named to advisory board

Byron B. Cole, Jr., of Appomattox, and Jimmy P. Moore of Concord, were elected to the local Advisory Board at the Southern States Annual Membership Meeting held in Appomattox, Va. on July 18. Over 30 stockholder-members and their families attended the session.

Russell H. Moore of Gladstone, was selected chairman of the local board, while Jimmy P. Moore of Concord was named vice-chairman.

Elected to the local Southern States Farm Home Advisory Committee were: Mrs. E. W. Marshall, Jr., of Spout Spring, and Mrs. Boyd Thompson of Lynchburg.

Mrs. E. Carter Martin of Appomattox, was chosen as chairman of the Farm Home Advisory Committee while Mrs. Russell L. Cordell of Appomattox was named secretary.

Mr. John P. Alvis of Concord was chosen as a delegate to represent the local membership at the Southern States 61st Annual Stockholders' Meeting to be held in November. Mr. John C. Cole of Appomattox, was named alternate.

Elected as delegate and alternate to a District Election meeting to be held in Lynchburg this fall, was Mr. John P. Alvis of Concord as delegate and Mr. John C. Cole of Appomattox as alternate.

Jeff Burgess of Richmond, member of Southern States Cooperative's regional staff, reported on the over-all Southern States operations. This report also included a slide-tape presentation entitled "Southern States: Teaming Tradition and Technology," which focused on the fact that for more than 60 years, Southern States Cooperative's farmer-members and management have teamed together to render a record of steady service and continued innovation. Dependability and technological leadership have gone hand in hand.

The report on local operations and services rendered to farmer-members in the community was given by Ronald Coleman co-manager of Coleman & Sons, Inc.

L C offers programs in gerontology

Undergraduate and graduate level Specialist in Aging certificate programs in gerontology will be offered by Lynchburg College's Belle Boone Beard Gerontology Center during the fall 1984 term. The announcement came from Dr. Albert J. E. Wilson III, director of the Center.

Both undergraduate and graduate programs include a multidiciplinary core of courses covering sociological, psychological, and biological aspects of aging; social policy and legislation; and a field placement or internship in gerontology.

Two new courses have been added for the fall term beginning Sept. 1. They are "Biological Processes and Aging" and Social Policy and Programs for Older Persons."

Efforts are being made to schedule all courses at times convenient for employed persons. The two courses mentioned above are offered from 7 - 10 p.m.

For additional information about the Specialist in Aging certificate Programs at Lynchburg College, call Dr. Wilson at the Belle Boone Beard Gerontology Center. The number is (804) 522-8456.

The Center, named for a 1923 graduate of Lynchburg College and an internationally known gerontologist, has as its functions promoting and conducting educational, research, and training programs in gerontology; providing consultation to community organizations; and disseminating information on aging.

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Rocks news

By CASSIE BALDWIN

Rocks July 30: We rejoice over the nice rains we have been blessed with. Things are really growing.

The King messengers presented a program of Gospel music at Rocks Sunday night. A large crowd came out. An ice cream fellowship followed the service. You missed a lot, if you didn't hear them.

Lloyd and Otis Richardson went to Charlottesville Sunday afternoon to see Glenn Cole, who was still a patient there.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Rosch and Darell returned from Florida Sunday night, July 29, after a wonderful vacation.

Get-well wishes go out to Wilbur St. John, who is in the hospital.

A group of acteens will go to Eagle Eyrie on Friday night and Saturday, Aug. 4 for a meeting there. Gayle Craft and Virginia Shelton will accompany them. Be in prayer for them in the work they are doing.

Sympathy goes out to the Megginson Hughs families and relatives in the death of their loved one, whose funeral was held at Robinson Funeral Home at 11 a.m. July 31st.

Get-well wishes go out to Christine Ranson, who is not feeling well.

A sad gloom set in on Tuesday afternoon. News came that a beloved friend, Eunice Scruggs, passed away at Hopewell. She lived in Pamplin for many years at her home and moved away when her husband Leslie died a few years ago.

Sympathy goes out to her relatives.

Get-well wishes go out to Wiley Richardson who in in Virginia Baptist Hospital again.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Almond and Tim and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mason returned Wednesday from spending a few days in Delaware with Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mason, Sr. He is not so well.

Get-well wishes go out to Bertha Shelton, who is now at Blueridge Hospital near Charlottesville.

A speedy recovery is wished Robert Taylor, who is now in Lynchburg General Hospital.

Sympathy goes out to Carolyn Massey in the death of another one of her sisters, who died this week.

Mike Richardson went to work on his job again. He is doing very well with a cast on his leg.

The ladies are busy trying to save their vegetables, freezing, canning, pickling and making stew.

Get-well wishes go out to Mary Dickerson in Lynchburg, who fell again and is at the home of her daughter, Jean.

Elsie Ranson was at Pamplin on Tuesday and stopped by to see Mrs. Carrie Richardson on her way home.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. David O. Austin, who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary, at Hollywood Baptist Church on July 29. May they have many more anniversaries.

James Womack returned home on Thursday, Aug. 2 from the hospital much improved.

Pamplin Cannery opens Monday and Tuesday of next week, Aug. 6 and Aug. 8.

A nice crowd came out for the community club picnic on Thursday night, Aug 2. A total of 40 were present.

Mr. Roy Lucado and Mr. and Mrs. Linford Cumbey of Pamplin and Mrs. Arleen David of Charlotte, N.C. spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lucado in Roanoke.

Chestnut Grove news

Little Becky Morris had four of her classmates spend the weekend with her in celebration of her ninth birthday. The guests were Amy Rae Land, Julie Davis, Jennifer Coleman and Joey Jones. They had a slumber party Saturday night and went to a movie Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr., Kathy and Kemper III were Wednesday night visitors of Mrs. Katherine Carson at Spout Spring. It was Mrs. Carson's birthday.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shepard of Cumberland were Mr. and Mrs. C. Henson Morris of Appomattox.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernard C. Proffitt and Mrs. Ellen Beasley were Sunday visitors of Richard and Walker Webb and Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Webb, all of Appomattox.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey N. Morris were Mr. and Mrs. Sam Coleman of Gladstone.

Lewis Morgan's condition continues to improve in a Lynchburg Hospital. We hope he will soon be able to return home.

Visitors Saturday night of Mr. and Mrs. Vernard C. Proffitt were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Manis of Farmville.

Joe Snoddy cited

Joe Snoddy

Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center was proud to present Joe Snoddy with a certificate of recognition for being selected "Camper of the Week", on Friday, July 27.

This certificate is awarded to a camper who participates in a variety of activities held during the week of camp. Next summer Joe will receive a half scholarship to attend 4-H Camp.

Joe is the son of Bobby and Duffy Snoddy of Buckingham County.

In order to work with the campers from Buckingham, Cumberland, and Prince Edward counties, junior leaders came for a week of building leadership skills plus loads of fun. Two junior leaders were selected according to their outstanding leadership abilities. Those individuals were Louis Schalow and Elaine Marshall.

Amy Deane, a Greene County 4-H'er, was selected "Camper of the Week" on Friday, July 20, 1984.

Amy attended Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center and received this honor due to her active participation in the camp events and activities.

Next year, she will receive a half scholarship to attend 4-H Camp.

Amy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lebert Deane.

Can you swim, shoot a rifle, paddle a canoe, or ride a horse? These are just a few things 4-H'ers from Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Brunswick Counties learned during the week of July 2-5, 1984, at Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center.

Timmy Jones, a 4-H'er from Brunswick County, was awarded a half scholarship to attend camp next year for being selected "Camper of the Week". Timmy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Jones.

Two teen leaders were selected as "Teen Leader of the Week". They were Carson Phillips and Calvin Bridgeforth. These young men displayed outstanding leadership qualities during the week as they worked with the young campers.

Surplus cheese, butter will be distributed

The Appomattox County Department of Social Services will distribute surplus cheese and butter Tuesday, Aug. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Main Street Railroad Depot.

Recipients of food stamps, Medicaid, Aid to Dependent Children, Supplemental Security Income and fuel assistance will be eligible for the surplus food.

Also, people with a gross monthly income below 130 percent of the poverty level will be eligible for the food.

Medicaid and SSI recipients must show their Medicaid identification card to receive the surplus food. Recipients of fuel and ADC will be checked against a master list.

Foodstamp recipients must bring the notice sent with the August 1984 food stamps. Green food stamp identification cards will not be accepted.

People requesting food based on their income must sign a form listing all household members and all gross monthly income. Be prepared to supply this information (see chart below).

Households with more than one family will receive only one allotment of surplus food. Please bring a bag or box with you.

Family size	Monthly Gross Income
1	$ 527
2	709
3	891
4	1,073
5	1,255
6	1,437
7	1,619
8	1,801
9	1,983
10	2,165
11	3,347
12	3,529
13	3,711

ACHS band boosters slate meeting

The Appomattox County High School Band Boosters club will have its organization meeting for the new school year on Monday, Aug. 13 at 7:30 p.m., in the band room of the High School.

New officers for the 1984-85 school year are as follows: President - Mrs. Elaine Stanley; Vice-President - Mrs. Thelma Knight; Secretary - Mrs. Betty Bryant; Treasurer - Mrs. Lucille Fillingame; Reporter - Mrs. Jo Anne Burger.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend, especially parents of new band members.

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